

at the time that the King of Bavaria said to an officer of the Emperor's household in whom he had great confidence, "If this continues we shall have to give up, and put the key under the door." These were his very words.

As for Jerome, he returned to Cassel quite, disheartened at the unsuccessful issue of his loan. Some days after his return to his capital I received from him a snuff-box with his portrait set in diamonds, accompanied by a letter of thanks for the service I had rendered him. I never imagined that a token of remembrance\* from a crowned head could possibly be declined. Napoleon, however, thought otherwise. I had not, it is true, written to acquaint our Government with the King of Westphalia's loan, but in a letter, which I addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 21st of September, I mentioned this. present Jerome had sent me. Why Napoleon should have been offended at this I know not, but I received orders to return Jerome's present immediately, and these orders were accompanied with bitter reproaches for my having accepted it without the Emperor's authority. I sent back the diamonds, but kept the portrait. Knowing Bonaparte's distrustful disposition, I thought he must have suspected that Jerome had employed threats, or at any rate, that he had used some illegal influence to facilitate the success of his loan. At last, after much correspondence, Napoleon saw clearly that everything was perfectly regular; in a word, that the business had been transacted as between two private persons. As to the \$1,000,000 francs which the Senate, had lent to Jerome, the fact is, that, but little scruple, was made about, it, for this simple reason, that it was the means of removing from Hamburg the Westphalian division, whose presence, occasioned a much greater expense than the loan.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Joseph Bonaparte here remarks that it is shown that Napoleon treated the Prussians as independent. However, and that Houriet ought to have known that he had no right to accept, much a present without the order of the Emperor (*Mirreux*, tome ii. p. 175).